

Appl. No.: 10/565,690

Amdt. Dated March 14, 2007

Response to Office Action Mailed December 28, 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

1. (Currently Amended) An ~~air-tight sealable~~ package comprising a flexible air-tight ~~impervious envelope having an outer, of which one wall (2), portions of said wall forming is pierced by a slot (5) through said wall and also forming first and second lips (9, 23) adjacent said slot, and an self-adhesive strip (10) positioned selectively to close the slot in the envelope wall,~~ wherein the self adhesive strip (10) comprises two parallel self adhesive faces, wherein a first of said faces (16, 21) is completely covered with a ~~first~~ detachable protective strip (17), wherein a second of said faces comprises a first zone (12) that is fixed to the wall (2) of the envelope, along a ~~first~~ lip (9) of said slot (5), and a second zone (14) that extends in front of ~~adjacent and beyond~~ the slot and beyond a ~~said~~ second lip (23) of the slot, ~~and~~ said second zone of the self-adhesive strip being ~~is~~ covered with a ~~second~~ detachable protective strip (15).

2. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 1, wherein the wall (2) of the envelope (30) extends beyond (4) the second lip (23) of the slot (5), for a distance at least equal to a length of the second zone (14) of the self adhesive strip (10).

3. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 2, wherein the a length of the second zone (14) of the self adhesive strip (10) is at least equal to a length of the first zone (12) of the ~~said~~ self adhesive strip.

4. (Previously Presented) A package according to claim 1, wherein the slot (5) is rectilinear.

5. (Previously Presented) A package according to claim 4, wherein the slot (5) is arranged close to a rectilinear edge (31) of the envelope (30).

6. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 1, wherein the envelope (30) is divided into a plurality of distinct pockets (27), each pocket communicating with a respective portion of the slot (5).

7. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 1, wherein the envelope (30) comprises at least one sheet (2, 6) in comprising an outer layer of oriented polyamide, laminated with an inner, polyethylene layer inside the envelope (30).

8. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 1, wherein the self adhesive strip (10) comprises at least one sheet (13, 20) of synthetic olefin polymer, covered on two sides with a rubber based adhesive (12, 14, 16, 21).

9. (Currently Amended) A method for airtight packing of a product, comprising the steps of:

- providing a package according to claim 1;
- inserting the product (28) into the envelope (30), through the slot (5)

- removing the first protective strip (15) covering the second zone (14) of the self-adhesive strip (10), and sealing said second zone on the second lip (23) of the slot and onto the outer wall (4) of the envelope;
- removing the second protective strip (17) from the first face (16) of the self adhesive strip; and
- folding the envelope back on itself along the slot, so that the stripped face of the self-adhesive strip is folded back on itself.

10. (Currently Amended) A method for airtight packing of a product according to claim 9, wherein a relative pressure of at least 0.95 bar and a temperature of -40 °C to 55 °C may exist inside said package after packing without losing product outside the envelope.

11. (Previously Presented) A package according to claim 2, wherein the slot (5) is rectilinear.

12. (Previously Presented) A package according to claim 3, wherein the slot (5) is rectilinear.

13. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 2, wherein the envelope (30) is divided into a plurality of distinct pockets (27), each communicating with a respective portion of the slot (5).

14. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 3, wherein the envelope (30) is divided into a plurality of distinct pockets (27), each communicating with a respective portion of the slot (5).

15. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 4, wherein the envelope (30) is divided into a plurality of distinct pockets (27), each communicating with a respective portion of the slot (5).

16. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 2, wherein the envelope (30) comprises at least one outer sheet (2, 6) in comprising oriented polyamide, laminated with and an inner, polyethylene layer inside the envelope (30).

17. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 3, wherein the envelope (30) comprises at least one outer sheet (2, 6) in comprising oriented polyamide, laminated with and an inner, polyethylene layer inside the envelope (30).

18. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 4, wherein the envelope (30) comprises at least one outer sheet (2, 6) in comprising oriented polyamide, laminated with and an inner, polyethylene layer inside the envelope (30).

19. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 2, wherein the self adhesive strip (10) comprises at least one sheet (13, 20) of synthetic olefin polymer, covered-coated on two sides with a rubber based adhesive (12, 14, 16, 21).

20. (Currently Amended) A package according to claim 3, wherein the self adhesive strip (10) comprises at least one sheet (13, 20) of synthetic olefin polymer, covered-coated on two sides with a rubber based adhesive (12, 14, 16, 21).